

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 SSO-00 CCO-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:MAR

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

S/S: JPMOFFAT

S/P:LARS HYDLE

S:RWAHERNE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 103185 TOSEC 110301

FOR SECRETARY FROM SISCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, MO, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: MESSAGE TO CONVENTION OF ARAB  
AMERICANS (S/S NO: 7608909 )

1. YOU HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONVENTION  
OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB-AMERICANS MAY 1 IN  
CLEVELAND. THIS IS THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZATION OF ARAB  
AMERICANS, COMPOSED MAINLY OF LEBANESE-AMERICANS BUT  
INTERESTED IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD GENERALLY.  
THE CONVENTION THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR IS DEDICATED  
PARTICULARLY TO MOROCCO, WHICH RECOGNIZED THE UNITED  
STATES VERY EARLY IN ITS HISTORY, AND THE INVITATION CAME  
FROM THE MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR. WE HAVE PROPOSED TO THE  
AMBASSADOR THAT PETE DAY REPRESENT YOU AND HE APPEARED  
PLEASSED THAT YOU WOULD BE SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE. WE  
UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS ALSO INVITED AND HAS  
DESIGNATED BILL CLEMENTS TO REPRESENT HIM AND HE WILL MAKE  
THE MAIN ADDRESS. WE BELIEVE THAT DAY SHOULD READ A MES-  
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SAGE FROM YOU TOGETHER WITH WHATEVER OTHER REMARKS HE MAY

MAKE, AND WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING TEXT FOR YOUR APPROVAL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

I SEND MY CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB-AMERICANS AS YOU MEET IN YOUR ANNUAL CONVENTION. YOUR ORGANIZATION REFLECTS, IN THE BEST AMERICAN TRADITION, THE ENLIGHTENED PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY IN THE PURSUIT OF OUR COMMON INTERESTS THROUGH OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

I WANT ALSO, ON THIS SPECIAL OCCASION, TO SEND MY WARM GREETINGS AND REGARDS TO HIS MAJESTY, KING HASSAN, AND THE MOROCCAN PEOPLE THROUGH AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB, AS THE ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES MOROCCAN DAY IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR. IT IS WELL WORTH RECALLING HOW FAR BACK IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNTRY OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ARAB WORLD GOES. WE STILL TODAY, AFTER ALMOST 200 YEARS OF RELATIONS, FEEL A SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP FOR MOROCCO.

THIS IS AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO REVIEW THE STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO DEVELOP. I THINK WE MUST AGREE THAT THEY HAVE GROWN MUCH BROADER AND DEEPER IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, BUT ALSO THAT THERE IS MUCH STILL TO DO.

IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WE MUST WORK TO BRING AN END TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE THROUGH THE NEGOTIATION OF A JUST AND LASTING SETTLEMENT. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS PLEDGED ITSELF TO CONTINUE THE DETERMINED EFFORTS OF THE PAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS THAT HAVE ALREADY BROUGHT THE FIRST MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE THAT THE MIDDLE EAST HAS SEEN IN MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY. I BELIEVE WE CAN CONFIDENTLY LOOK FORWARD TO THE COMING YEAR AS A YEAR IN WHICH OUR EFFORTS WILL BE UNDERTAKEN WITH RENEWED ENERGY AND DEDICATION IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONLY CONTINUED PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE WILL ENABLE US TO AVOID FURTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I ASK THE SUPPORT OF ALL OF YOU IN THIS UNDERTAKING, FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT MUST HAVE THE BACKING OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IF IT IS TO FULFILL ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMITMENTS ABROAD.

I HOPE AND TRUST THAT THE COMING YEAR WILL ALSO SEE THE END OF THE TRAGIC CONFLICT IN LEBANON THAT HAS COST SO MANY LIVES AND HAS MORTGAGED THE FUTURE OF THAT COUNTRY FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. HERE AGAIN, THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE DETERMINED EFFORTS TO ASSIST IN REACHING A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED. WE HAVE ALSO GIVEN

GENEROUSLY TO AMELIORATE THE SUFFERING THAT HAS RESULTED  
FROM THE BITTER CONFLICT. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE  
BOTH ENDEAVORS UNTIL WE SEE LEBANON ARISE AGAIN AS A FREE,  
INDEPENDENT, SOVEREIGN AND UNIFIED COUNTRY, PREPARED TO  
TAKE ITS OWN FUTURE IN ITS OWN HANDS ON THE BASIS OF COOP-  
ERATION AMONG ITS MANY COMMUNITIES.  
IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT AND WITH THESE HOPES THAT I WISH YOU  
WELL IN THE YEAR AHEAD. END TEXT.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU APPROVE THE FOREGOING STATEMENT FOR DELIVERY  
BY DAY AT THE NAA BANQUET MAY 1.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

4. DRAFTED: NEA:ARDAY; APPROVED:P:JJSISCO  
CLEARED: S:RAHERNE

SISCO

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